

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 262139

65

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 OTP-01 CCO-00 CIAE-00 EB-07 FCC-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 DODE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /046 R

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----- 014776

P 052055Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 262139

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, SOPN, US, CE

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF USG-GSL VOA AGREEMENT

1. EMBASSY IS INSTRUCTED TO ADVISE GSL THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO NEGOTIATE FIVE YEAR EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH VOA RENTS RADIO TRANSMISSION FACILITIES IN SRI LANKA AND TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS TO THIS END.

2. VOA IS WILLING TO GRANT REASONABLE RATE INCREASE BUT PREFERS THAT ESSENTIAL POINTS OF PRESENT AGREEMENT REMAIN UNCHANGED. ANY SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES REQUESTED BY GSL SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO DEPARTMENT/USIA FOR CONSIDERATION.

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PAGE 02 STATE 262139

3. FYI: THE DEMONSTRATED SIGNAL EFFECTIVENESS AND

SHORTAGE OF VOA TRANSMITTERS IN EUROPE AND FAR EAST WHICH
WILL BE MORE ACUTE WHEN OKINAWA RELAY STATION IS CLOSED
IN FUTURE IS MAIN REASON WHY VOA DESIRES THAT AGREEMENT
FOR COLOMBO RELAY STATION BE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER FIVE
YEAR PERIOD. IT IS HOPED THAT ADDITIONAL VOA TRANS-
MITTERS WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE PHILIPPINES IN THE
MEANTIME. END FYI. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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